

REMARKS

The Examiner's allowance of claims 22-24 is appreciated. However, Applicant is confused over the Examiner's rejection of claims 25 and 27 and objections to claims 26 and 28. In the previous Response to Office Action, new claims 22-28 were added, placing objected to claims in independent form. This is generally understood to place the claims in condition for allowance. The Examiner did allow claims 22-24 but rejected claims 25 and 27 and objected to claims 26 and 28.

Claim 25 is simply claim 16 rewritten in independent form. Since claim 16 is, again, objected to, this claim 25 should be allowed. Claims 6 and 16 read as follows:

6. (rejected) A process for preparing gabapentin tannate, comprising: mixing gabapentin and tannic acid to obtain gabapentin tannate wherein the tannic acid component is of either natural or synthetic origin.
16. (objected to) The process of claim 6, further including isolating and purifying gabapentin tannate.

Claim 25 reads as follows and is quite clearly claim 16 in independent form.

25. (previously presented) A process for preparing gabapentin tannate, comprising: mixing gabapentin and tannic acid to obtain gabapentin tannate wherein the tannic acid component is of either natural or synthetic origin, and isolating and purifying the gabapentin tannate.

Claim 27 is simply claim 20 rewritten in independent form. Since claim 20 is, again, objected to, this claim 27 should be allowed. Claims 18, 19, and 20 read as follows:

18. (original) A process for preparing gabapentin tannate comprising: mixing gabapentin and tannic acid together in the presence of a solvent wherein the tannic acid is of either natural or synthetic origin.
19. (original) The process of claim 18, including selecting said solvent from a group consisting of purified water, ethanol, glycerin, propylene

glycol, diethylether, methylene chloride, acetone, isopropyl alcohol and mixtures thereof.

20. (original) The process of claim 19, further including isolating and purifying gabapentin tannate.

Claim 27 reads as follows and is quite clearly claim 20 in independent form.

27. (previously presented) A process for preparing gabapentin tannate comprising: mixing gabapentin and tannic acid together in the presence of a solvent wherein the tannic acid is of either natural or synthetic origin, and wherein the solvent is selected from a group consisting of purified water, ethanol, glycerin, propylene glycol, diethylether, methylene chloride, acetone, isopropyl alcohol, and mixtures thereof; and isolating and purifying the gabapentin tannate.

The following Table further explains the perceived errors in the claim rejections and objections.

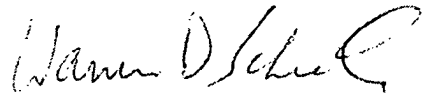
New Claim	Old Claim	Basis for rejection of old claim	Basis for rejection of new claim
22	11	Objected to	Allowed
23	12	Objected to	Allowed
24	13	Objected to	Allowed
25	16	Objected to	Rejected over prior art
26	17 (dependent on 25)	Objected to	Objected to
27	20	Objected to	Rejected over prior art
28	Dependent on 27	Objected to	Objected to

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It is apparent that claims 25-28 should all be allowed and prompt action to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Warren D. Schickli", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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